

Meadium

The title of this column indicates a means of getting in touch with ideas and people which other media cannot reach! A wide freedom of expression – both in content and in form – is offered to contributors. Please send your contributions to: MIKE PEDLER, Department of Management Studies, Sheffield City Polytechnic, Dyson House, Sheffield 1. Tel: 0742 738621.

Beauty and the Beast: A Participative Fairy Story

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‘Beauty and the Beast’ is, of course, a well-known fairy story. In the version told here, various details have been left blank. The reader is invited to fill in the blanks as he or she feels appropriate. You might like to fill them in with whatever comes into your head.

Alternatively, a list of relevant words is given after the end of the story; choosing the right word for the right space should be quite exciting. Hard work, too, perhaps. A bit like development.

Anyway here goes.

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful _____, called _____. He/she (from now on referred to as *), lived in a _____ in _____, together with her/his _____.

One day, when everyone was being happy and having a _____, a wicked monster, called _____, came along. The wicked creature demanded that the beautiful _____ be given to it. When everyone said ‘no, go away you naughty, horrid _____,’ the nasty thing snarled and said it would torment them and come back one day to gobble them all up. It then ran off into the _____, where it made horrible _____, and frightened everybody.

Lots of people went out to fight the monster. They set off, with protective _____, and shields of _____, carrying fearsome weapons such as _____ and _____. Nevertheless, they never succeeded in their awesome task.

Many never returned. Those that did were terribly wounded and shocked, often quite out of their minds with _____. For some reason they were never able to give a consistent picture of the dreaded beast. Some said it was _____, whilst others described it as _____, full of _____. Some even claimed that it was _____.

Gradually, the wicked creature grew and grew, all the while approaching the _____ where Beauty lived. By this time * was very beautiful indeed; everybody admired Beauty's _____, _____, _____, and _____. Strangely, though, whenever * looked in his/her mirror, * only saw some less beautiful characteristics, such as her/his _____, _____, _____, and _____.

Eventually, the creature was so close that Beauty decided that the only answer was to go to it, as it had originally demanded. * collected all sorts of armour (_____, _____, _____, and _____), and several weapons (_____, _____, _____, and _____) but found these so heavy that in the end * threw them away, and just took a simple _____.

Eventually, after many _____, * came across the monster, who was tired out with being so naughty and destructive, and was having an afternoon nap. It was dreaming about _____

_____, and actually looked a bit sad. Beauty, instead of being afraid, thought that it couldn't be very nice being a horrid, wicked, _____, and felt sorry for it. * therefore crept up and gave it a BIG

**HUG AND A KISS.
WHEREUPON,**

Some appropriate words

NB Any nouns may be in the singular or plural. In any case, cheat as much as you like.

accountancy	deeds	hard subjects
action learning	dependent	hatred
ambitious	destructive	here-and-now
ATM	dogmatic	honesty
	double	huge
bank account		husband
behavioural science	end-of-course review	
biography	envy	ideas
black	excuses	idleness
board room	experiences	inhibitions
body		inventive
boss	factory	
budgets	fear	jargon
business policy	feedback	jealousy
	feelings	
case studies	female	lacking cohesive identity
certainty	fickle	left wing
colleagues	finance	lesson plans
collective	forest	love
college	friend	loyal
computers		
conferences	general election	
conscience	guru	male
courageous		manager
critical path analysis	hairy	management teacher
customer	hand-outs	me